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10/568,551	08/30/2006	Stephen Temple	17260.4	4385

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WORKMAN NYDEGGER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER	
QUADER, FAZLUL	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2164	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/568,551	TEMPLE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	FAZLUL QUADER	2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *03* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *25 April 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 1-30 *are* pending in this application.

2. Examiner acknowledges applicant's amendment on 04/25/2008.

3. Claims 1-11, 14-17 and 20-30 have been amended on 04/25/2008.

4. Claims 21-24 have been newly added on 04/25/2008.

5. Applicant's arguments filed 04/25/2008, with respect to claims 1-30 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive, for examiner's response see discussion below.

Objection to Claims

6. Claim 1, line 1; claim 6, line 1 recite "A method", which might include steps that can be implemented within a person's mind which is not an acceptable limitation. Therefore, "A computer implemented method" would be more appropriate.

7. The "user storage terminal" in claim 20 has no antecedent basis in the claim or in the specification. Proper correction is required.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

8. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

9. Claims 1, 6-11, 14-16, 20, 25-29 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. "content reproduction terminal" recited in these claims are not described in the specification..

10. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

11. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

12. Claim 20 recites the limitation "user storage terminal" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim or in the specification.

13. Claims 21-30 are also rejected as they are dependent on claim 20.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. Claims 1-30 of the current application (effective filing date: Oct. 30, 2006) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ihara et al. (US 6970928; filing date: Aug. 27, 2001), hereinafter "Ihara" in view of Vermola et al. (US 20050090235; pub. date: Apr. 28, 2005), hereinafter "Vermola".

16. As to claim 1, Ihara discloses, a method of operating a communication system in which each one of a plurality of users is provided with a user content reproduction terminal and a user storage terminal, associated with the user content reproduction terminal, the method including the steps of (col. 5, lines 15-25):

storing encrypted content data on each of said user storage terminals (col. 30, lines 5-32);

generating schedule data including decryption key means for enabling decryption of the content data by the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 33-40); and

transmitting the schedule data to the user storage terminal via a mobile telecommunications network (col.18, lines 38-48); wherein

the user storage terminal includes a time indicator, and the schedule data is generated such that the schedule data controls a time at which the content data is decrypted by the user storage terminal using the decryption means and with respect to the time indicator of the user storage terminal such that the decrypted content data can be transmitted at said time to the user content reproduction terminal associated with the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 41-57).

Ihara, however, does not explicitly disclose, "decryption by means of key";

Vermola, on the other hand, discloses, "decryption by means of key" (Vermola: [0005]).

Both Ihara and Vermola are of the same field of endeavor, they specifically teach content distribution method (Ihara: abstract; Vermola: [0008]).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Vermola into Ihara of Content distribution method and content supply system, that would have allowed users of Ihara to have an useful method, to receive broadcast services in a selectable manner (Vermola: [0002]).

17. As to claim 2, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the content data is stored on the user storage terminal by transmitting the content data over the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 3).

18. As to claim 3, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 2, wherein the content data is transmitted to the user storage terminal at a time selected to coincide with a time when network use is or is expected to be low (Ihara: col. 8, lines 5-24; col. 33, lines 41-57).

19. As to claim 4, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the content data is stored on the user storage terminal prior to distribution of the user storage terminal to the user (Ihara: col. 8, lines 5-24).

20. As to claim 5, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the content data is stored on the user storage terminal by transmitting the content data via the Internet (Ihara: abstract; col. 1, lines 26-34).

21. As to claim 6, Ihara discloses, a method of controlling access to encrypted content data stored on a storage terminal, the method including the steps of:

transmitting schedule data to the user storage terminal via a mobile telecommunications network (col. 18, lines 38-48; col. 32, line 55-col. 33, lines 7), the schedule data including decryption means for enabling decryption of the content data by the storage terminal (col. 33, lines 33-40); and receiving the schedule data at the user storage terminal (col. 18, lines 38-48); wherein

the user storage terminal includes a time indicator, and the schedule data controls a time at which the content data is decrypted by the user storage terminal using the decryption key means and with respect to the time indicator of the user storage terminal such that the decrypted content data can be transmitted at said time to a user content reproduction terminal associated with the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 41-57).

Ihara, however, does not explicitly disclose, "decryption by means of key";

Vermola, on the other hand, discloses, "decryption by means of key" (Vermola: [0005]).

Both Ihara and Vermola are of the same field of endeavor, they specifically teach content distribution method (Ihara: abstract; Vermola: [0008]).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Vermola into Ihara of Content distribution method and content supply system, that would have allowed users of Ihara to have an useful method, to receive broadcast services in a selectable manner (Vermola: [0002]).

22. As to claim 7, Ihara as modified discloses, a method of claim 1, wherein the user storage terminal and the user content reproduction terminal comprise a single device (Ihara: col. 5, line 47-col. 6, line 12).

23. As to claim 8, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, wherein the time of transmission is controlled such that the content data is made available to the user content reproduction terminal substantially simultaneously with the transmission of that content data to the user storage terminal by the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 18, lines 38-48; col. 32, line 55-col. 33, lines 7).

24. As to claim 9, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1 any one of the preceding claims, wherein the user of the user content reproduction terminal can select content data to be transmitted to the user storage terminal and for the subsequent transmission to the user content reproduction terminal (Ihara: col. 8, lines 13-24).

25. As to claim 10, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, wherein the user content reproduction of the user terminal can adjust the time of transmission of content data from the user storage terminal to the user terminal (Ihara: col. 8, lines 5-24; col. 33, lines 41-57).

26. As to claim 11, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, including determining the location of the user content reproduction terminal and transmitting special schedule data and/or content data in dependence upon the determined location (Ihara: col. 8, lines 13-24).

27. As to claim 12, as modified Ihara discloses, the method of claim 1, including enabling the user to respond to the content data via the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 18, lines 38-48; col. 32, line 55-col. 33, lines 7).

28. As to claim 13, Ihara as modified discloses, the method of claim 1, including enabling the user to perform a transaction associated with the content data (Ihara: col.

8, lines 13-24).

29. As to claim 14, Ihara discloses, a communication system in which each user is provided with a user content reproduction terminal and a user storage terminal associated with the user content reproduction terminal, the system (col. 40, lines 19-25; col. 30, lines 5-32) including:

means for transmitting encrypted content data to each of said user storage terminals (col. 30, lines 5-32);

means for generating schedule data including decryption key means for enabling decryption of the content data by the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 33-40); and

means for transmitting the schedule data to the user storage terminal via a mobile telecommunications network (col. 18, lines 38-48); wherein

the user storage terminal includes a time indicator, and the schedule data generating means is configured to generate the schedule data such that the schedule data controls a time at which the content data is decrypted by the storage terminal using the decryption means and with respect to the time indicator of the user storage terminal such that the decrypted content data can be transmitted at said time to the user

content reproduction terminal associated with the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 41-57).

Ihara, however, does not explicitly disclose, "decryption by means of key";

Vermola, on the other hand, discloses, "decryption by means of key" (Vermola: [0005]).

Both Ihara and Vermola are of the same field of endeavor, they specifically teach content distribution method (Ihara: abstract; Vermola: [0008]).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Vermola into Ihara of Content distribution method and content supply system, that would have allowed users of Ihara to have an useful method, to receive broadcast services in a selectable manner (Vermola: [0002]).

30. As to claim 15, Ihara as modified discloses, the system of claim 14, including means for receiving a request for particular content data from a user, and means for transmitting that content data to the user storage terminal for subsequent transmission to the user content reproduction terminals (Ihara: col. 1, lines 26-34).

31. As to claim 16, Ihara as modified discloses, the system of claim 14, including means for providing an indication of the location of the storage terminal within the network, and means for altering the schedule data for transmission to the user storage terminal in dependence upon that location indication (Ihara: col. 8, lines 37-46).

32. As to claim 17, Ihara as modified discloses, the system of any one of claims 14, including means for receiving instructions derived from the user content reproduction terminal in response to the content data (Ihara: col. 1, lines 26-34).

33. As to claim 18, Ihara as modified discloses, the system of claims 14, including means for enabling a transaction associated with the content data to be performed (Ihara: col. 8, lines 5-24; col. 33, lines 41-57).

34. As to claim 19, Ihara as modified discloses, the system of claim 14, wherein the network is a GSM or UMTS mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 8, lines 5-24; col. 33, lines 41-57).

35. As to claim 20, Ihara as discloses, a storage terminal for storing encrypted content data (col. 30, lines 5-32), the user storage terminal including:

means for receiving schedule data via a mobile telecommunications network, the schedule data including decryption key means for enabling decryption of the content data by the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 33-40); wherein

the user storage terminal includes a time indicator, and the schedule data controls a time at which the content data is decrypted by the user storage terminal using the decryption key means and with respect to the time indicator of the user storage terminal such that the decrypted content data can be transmitted at said time to a user content reproduction terminal associated with the user storage terminal (col. 33, lines 41-57).

Ihara, however, does not explicitly disclose, "decryption by means of key";

Vermola, on the other hand, discloses, "decryption by means of key" (Vermola: [0005]).

Both Ihara and Vermola are of the same field of endeavor, they specifically teach content distribution method (Ihara: abstract; Vermola: [0008]).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Vermola into Ihara of Content distribution method and content supply system, that would have allowed users of Ihara

to have an useful method, to receive broadcast services in a selectable manner (Vermola: [0002]).

36. As to claim 21, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claim 20, wherein the receiving means comprises an interface for receiving the schedule data from a mobile terminal, which mobile terminal is operable to receive schedule data from the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 3).

37. As to claim 22, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claim 20, wherein the receiving means comprises a transceiver connectable to the mobile telecommunications network for receiving schedule data from the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 3).

38. As to claim 23, Ihara as modified discloses, the storage terminal of claim 20, including means for receiving content data to be stored over the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 3).

39. As to claim 24, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claim 20, including means for receiving content data to be stored by means of the Internet (Ihara: abstract; col. 1, lines 26-34).

40. As to claim 25, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claims

20, including means for transmitting content data to the user content reproduction terminal substantially simultaneously with transmission of that content data to the user storage terminal by the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 18, lines 38-48; col. 32, line 55-col. 33, lines 7).

41. As to claim 26, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claims 20, including means for receiving instructions from the user content reproduction terminal which are indicative of a selection of content data required, and means for transmitting a signal indicative of this selection to a content data provider (Ihara: col. 8, lines 13-24; col. 10, lines 34-47).

42. As to claim 27, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claims 20, including means for adjusting the transmission time of content data from the user storage terminal to the user content reproduction terminal (Ihara: col. 8, lines 5-24; col. 33, lines 41-57).

43. As to claim 28, Ihara as modified discloses, the storage terminal of 20, including means for determining the location of the storage terminal and for varying the content data transmitted to the user terminal in dependence upon that location determination (Ihara: col. 8, lines 13-24).

44. As to claim 29, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claims

20, including means for transmitting a response to the content data from the user content reproduction terminal via the mobile telecommunications network (Ihara: col. 18, lines 38-48; col. 32, line 55-col. 33, lines 7).

45. As to claim 30, Ihara as modified discloses, the user storage terminal of claim 20, including means for enabling a transaction associated with the content data to be performed (Ihara: col. 8, lines 13-24).

Prior art made of record

46. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kelley et al. (US 7239705) teaches Apparatus and method for broadcast service transmission and reception.

Response to Arguments

47. Applicant's arguments filed 04/25/2007, with respect to claims 1-30 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive, for examiner's response see discussion below.

Claims 1-11, 14-17, and 20-30 are amended. Claims 1-30 remain pending.

Applicant's arguments: Applicants have amended the claims to more appropriately define Applicants' invention. For example, the term "storage terminal" has been amended in the claims to be a "user storage terminal." In addition, the amended independent claims also now recite that a "user content reproduction terminal [is] associated with the user storage terminal." Basis for these amendments can be found at least on page 3, lines 10 to 15, of the specification as originally filed.
Ibara discloses a technique for effecting a live personal casting service from a user's PC 106, via a streaming server 102, in a reserved time slot. See Ibara, column 5 lines 15-25. The time slot is reserved by the PC 106 communicating with a reservation control center 101 across the internet 103. Once the PC 106 has received its reservation information, either by transmitting an encrypted file (column 27 line 66-col 28 line 6) or via a webpage (column 30 lines 5-32), the PC will connect to the streaming server 102 using the reservation information (i.e. information on the time slot and connection port to be used) and commence broadcasting content. Therefore, Ihara describes a wholly

different technique to that defined in claim 1 of the present application, which recites, among other things: generating schedule data including a decryption key means for enabling decryption of the content data by the user storage terminal; transmitting the schedule data to the user storage terminal via a mobile telecommunications network; wherein...the schedule data is generated such that the schedule data controls a time at which the content data is decrypted by the user storage terminal.., such that the decrypted content data can be transmitted...to the user content reproduction terminal associated with the user storage terminal.

Independent claims 6, 14, and 20, although of different scope than claim 1, each recite limitations similar to those of claim 1 above. In Ihara the reservation information is described as being encrypted, but there is no disclosure of the content data being encrypted, let alone "schedule data [to control] a time at which the content data is decrypted by the user storage terminal," as claimed. Thus, even assuming that the claimed "user storage terminal, associated with the user content reproduction terminal" corresponds to the user PC 106 in Ihara, which initiates the live streaming, there is no disclosure in Ihara of the aforementioned limitations. As to Vermola, it is noted that the reference does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103. In particular, Vermola claims priority to a provisional application filed November 5, 2003, whereas the present application, being a national stage entry under 35 U.S.C. § 371, has an earlier effective filing date of August 20, 2003. SeeMPEP § 2136.03.II; 35 U.S.C. § 363. See alsoMPEP § 2141.01.I (discussing how a reference qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103).

At any rate. while Vermola relates to a terminal for receiving broadcast services, and discloses encryption of those services, there is no disclosure in Vermola of schedule data that controls the time at which the services are decrypted. Therefore, overall it is submitted that the Examiner has not established a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to independent claims 1, 6, 14 and 20. It is also submitted that it accordingly follows that the claims dependent from these independent claims are patentable over the cited art.

Examiner's response: Ihara, in claim 5 discloses, a content supply system composed of a distribution server that receives content sent from a client distributor terminal apparatus and distributes the content by streaming to a client terminal apparatus requesting the distribution of the content and a reservation control apparatus that controls reservations of live distribution of content using said distribution server, said content supply system comprising: a first network that connects said client distributor terminal apparatus and said reservation control apparatus and is used to send/receive data about a reservation for access to the distribution server to distribute content to a client terminal apparatus requesting the distribution of the content; a second network that connects said client distributor terminal apparatus and said distribution server and is used to send content from said client distributor terminal apparatus to said distribution server; wherein the reservation control apparatus schedules live distribution of content for a selected channel and a selected time based on whether a

reservation request, which includes said selected channel, said selected time, and communication/connection information for an associated carrier to distribute content, sent from said client distributor terminal apparatus is accepted; once accepted, the reservation control apparatus, determines an access server information; the access server information includes information regarding an access server, which is associated with the desired channel to distribute content via the second network; wherein the access server controls distribution of content by verifying if the client distributor terminal apparatus has a valid reservation to distribute content.

Ihara further states in col. 27, line 66-col. 28, line 30, the live casting server 150 that has created the reservation setting information file in the form of text data, etc. including the various kinds of data and commands above encrypts this file using an encryption system such as data encryption standard (DES), etc. and sends this encryption file together with the Web page that displays the reconfirmation completion screen to the user PC 106 over the Internet 103 (step Sb15). As described above, when the live casting server 150 sends the encrypted reservation setting information file and Web page, the CPU 120 of the user PC 106 receives this and decrypts the reservation setting information file using the technology of "ActiveX", automatically takes it in a predetermined area of the hard disk 123 according to the command included in the file (step Sb16) and shows the reconfirmation completion screen on the browser display screen 44 (step Sb17). Therefore, the user PC 106 stores a program to decrypt the above encryption to execute this program when encrypting the

reservation setting information file. Furthermore, when the CPU 120 writes the reservation setting information file in a predetermined area, the user PC 106 has a program to encrypt and write the file according to a predetermined encryption system (DES, etc.) and by executing this program, the reservation setting information file is encrypted and saved. Therefore, normally, the user is not allowed to display and refer to the contents of the automatically incorporated reservation setting information file. This prevents the access port numbers of the dedicated server connection network 108 from being unnecessarily opened to many people and prevents illegal accesses to the access ports of the dedicated server connection network 108 with an intention of interfering with this service.

Vermola, further recites in paragraph [0011], to avoid a user from having to input payment data every time that a service or bundle is purchased, the controller is preferably configured to implement a service purchase procedure by sending pre-existing payment data, maintained locally in the terminal, via a communications link. It is contemplated that the terminal includes a receiver operable to receive service purchase information over a bidirectional communications link. The received service purchase information can include one or more time-slicing parameters and/or data required to access the respective service or services. **The access data can include schedules, keys or other such data that the terminal uses to receive the corresponding service, services or bundle of services.** Additionally, the received service purchase information preferably includes one or more decryption keys, that

allows the service(s) to be accessed easily. The terminal can be configured to update the locally stored information concerning the accessibility of services with the received service purchase information, or at least part of the received information. The dependent claims can also be rejected for the reasons already stated above in the office action.

Conclusion

48. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

49. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FAZLUL QUADER whose telephone number is (571)270-1905. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5 Alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on 571-272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/FAZLUL QUADER/
Examiner
Art Unit 2164

FQ
July 29, 2008

/Charles Rones/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2164